

The Franklin Regional Council of Governments provides a variety of services and programming to the municipalities of Franklin County and to the greater Franklin County region. The FRCOG's 2016 Annual Report, which will be available in April of 2017 and on www.frcog.org shortly thereafter, will highlight our work over the past year. Specific services to the Town of Orange in 2016 included:

Administration and Special Projects

- Orange participated in the regional sign-making program, sharing equipment with ten other towns in Franklin County.
- Individual members of several Town energy committees met together informally on a bi-monthly basis to share news from their respective towns and to learn from each other and from invited guests about energy-related topics of mutual interest. FRCOG staff provided assistance in facilitating meetings, presented information, and conducted follow-up communication.

Collective Bidding & Purchasing Program

- Orange contracted with the FRCOG to receive cooperative bid pricing for up to 24 different Highway Products and Services. Total estimated highway needs for FY17 is \$756.554.
- Orange participated in the #2 Fuel and Diesel Fuel bids.
- The Chief Procurement Officer (CPO) issued a bid for a Library "Owners Project Manager and Design Services".
- The CPO issued bids for Road and Bridge assessments consulting services.
- The CPO issued a bid for Road Assessment services.

Partnership for Youth

- Staff conducted a Teen Health Survey to assess teen attitudes and behavior among middle and high school students. Staff reported to Ralph C. Mahar Regional School administrators on results from 294 Mahar students, representing 72% of the 8th, 10th, and 12th grade classes. Survey data meets federal requirements for the school and is valuable for grant-writing and program planning.
- PFY and Planning staff worked with Orange staff to develop a wayfinding campaign for downtown.
- Staff worked with Sandri Convenience Store to plan for incorporating healthier items into inventory.

Planning and Development Department

- Staff assisted with completing an update to the Orange Open Space and Recreation Plan, which was approved by the Division of Conservation Services in November, 2016.
- Staff provided technical assistance to support downtown revitalization.
- At the 2016 Western Mass Developers Conference, staff promoted two sites that are located in the town and are available for development.
- Staff revised the schedules, brochures, and maps of the FRTA's Fixed Routes.
- Staff compiled Complete Streets assessments on East River Street and East Main Street.

- Staff provided the Town with information on, and assistance with, the Massachusetts Complete Streets Program.
- Staff updated the Walk Franklin County Map for Orange.
- Staff continued to work with the Town and MassDOT to advance the North Main Street reconstruction project through the Franklin County Transportation Improvement Program.

Regional Preparedness Program

- Staff assisted the Towns of Erving, New Salem, Warwick, and Wendell in negotiating a Memorandum of Understanding and Financial Assessment Formula for the services of Orange Emergency Medical Services. The MOU was signed by all five towns.

Workshops & Training

The following list represents the FRCOG workshops and training sessions that Orange public officials, staff, and residents attended and the number in attendance.

Municipal Official Continuing Education Series

Public Water & Wastewater System Basics — 5

Public Records Law — 4

Partnership for Youth

Community Facility Use Agreement — 2

Advanced LifeSkills — 3 representatives of the Ralph C. Mahar Regional School District

Regional Emergency Preparedness

Multiple Casualty Incident Exercise — 5

Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council

Active Shooter Symposium — 2

Tactical EMS Training — 3

Vermont Vigilant Guard Fullscale Exercise — 1